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[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Areas of Expertise](#) [News](#) [Events](#) [Grants](#) [People](#) [Publications](#) [Contact Us](#)

[home](#) > [events](#) > [february 2009](#) > williamson murray

[September](#)

[October](#)

[November](#)

[December](#)

[January](#)

[February](#)

[March](#)

[April](#)

[May](#)

[Events Archive](#)

Williamson Murray

"An Historian Looks at the Future Environment"

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Noon

Mershon Center for International Security Studies

1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201



Williamson Murray
Senior Fellow
Institute of Defense
Analyses

See a [streaming video](#) of this event. This streaming video requires RealPlayer. If you do not have RealPlayer, you can [download it free](#).

Williamson Murray is a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Defense Analyses. He studies military and diplomatic history and is currently working on a project that investigates the ability of military institutions to adapt to the challenging conditions of combat.

Murray graduated from Yale University in 1963 with honors in history. He then served five years as an officer in the U.S. Air Force, including a tour in Southeast Asia with the 314th Tactical Airlift Wing (C-130s). He returned to Yale University, where he received his Ph.D. in military-diplomatic history, working under Hans Gatzke and Donald Kagan.

In 1977, he came to The Ohio State University as a military and diplomatic historian. He received the Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award in 1987. He retired from Ohio State in 1995 as Professor Emeritus of History.

Murray has written a wide selection of articles and books. He is author of *The Change in the European Balance of Power, 1938-1939, The Path to Ruin* (Princeton University Press, 1984); *Air War, 1914-1945* (Weidendeld and Nicholson: London, 1999); and *The Iraq War, A Military History* (Harvard University Press, 2003), written with Major General Robert Scales Jr.

Murray has worked with Allan Millett, co-editing a number of books that explore historical implications for current military thinking. Their

works include *Military Effectiveness* (Allen and Unwin, 1988); *Calculations, Net Assessment and the Coming of World War II* (Free Press, 1992); and *Military Innovations in the Interwar Period* (Cambridge, 1996).

Murray and Millett also published an operational history of World War II, *A War To Be Won, Fighting the Second World War* (Harvard University Press, 2000), which received outstanding reviews from *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *The Naval War College Review*, *The Journal of Military History*, and *Strategic Review*.

From 2006-08, Murray was Distinguished Visiting Professor of Naval History at the United States Naval Academy. He has taught at a number of other institutions, including the U.S. Military Academy, Air, Army, and Naval War Colleges, Marine Corps University, Yale University, London School of Economics, and the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.

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1501 Neil Ave.

Columbus, OH 43201

Phone: 614.292.1681

Fax: 614.292.2407

Email: mershoncenter@osu.edu